

242051Z SEP 79

TELEGRAM
 INDICATE
☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

 E.O. ~~12958~~
 TAGS:
 SUBJECT:

 FROM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
 CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

 12065: GDS 9-24-85 (CASTRO, RAUL H.) OR-M
 SHUM AR
 RELEASE AND PROTECTION FOR TIMERMAN

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 7917

REF: STATE 249264

1. CONFIDENTIAL entire text.
2. I obtained an appointment to see General Viola at 1800 hours September 26 at which time I will carry out instruction contained in reftel.
3. Political gossip and press are now taking for granted that a Junta decision has been made to expel Timerman and cancel his Argentine nationality. Our estimate is that if in fact this is not the case, the media and military opinion are being manipulated to make such a decision ~~xxxxxx~~ easier.
4. In a discussion with Rabbi Meyer ~~xxx~~ this afternoon I informed him of Department's policy re refuge and again reassured that I thought possibility of Timerman's being left unprotected in Buenos Aires

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 CLEARANCES

 DRAFTING DATE
 9-24-79

 TEL EXT
 201

 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY
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 POL:TFreeman
 POL:TFriedman

 BA-9
 4-12-76

ASSI /CATION

was extremely unlikely. It would make no sense for moderates in GOA to force the issue of his release and then further blacken country's image by permitting his death or disappearance. Furthermore, while we do not want to run the risk of overstressing importance of the reported Supreme Court decision, a direct challenge of the Junta by the Supreme Court (if only by means of leaking news of a decision) is completely unprecedented for this government and could turn out to be a watershed event.

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